

MARVEL  
COMICS

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# RAGE

2099

GRANT  
MCPHEM



MY LIFE IS AN UTTER RUIN... YET I FEEL STRANGELY ELATED.

I AM COMMITTED NOW TO NEVER RETURNING TO MY FORMER LIFE--MY JOB, MY FAMILY... I SHALL STAY IN THIS FORM.

NO LONGER A MAN, BUT AN ANIMAL... THEN AGAIN, WHAT IS MAN BUT AN ANIMAL? AT LEAST I SHALL BE AN HONEST ONE.

LISTEN, KRISY... IT'S LIKE I TOLD YA -- I QUIT WITH STELLA... IT'S JUST ME AND YOU NOW, BABE!

I--I WANT TO BELIEVE YOU, DERAK... MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD... BUT YOU'VE DONE THIS BEFORE...

LOOK--  
LOOK RIGHT  
INTO MY EYES,  
KRISY... SEARCH  
MY HEART! I  
COULDN'T LIE  
TO YOU,  
BABY!

...YOU TOLD BOTH  
OF US YOU HAD BROKEN  
UP WITH THE OTHER...  
SHE WAS MY FRIEND,  
DERAK!

OH, DERAK,  
FORGIVE ME--  
IT'S SO HARD  
TO BE VULNERABLE... TO  
TRUST... TO  
REALLY  
LET GO...

I  
WOULDN'T  
LET GO QUITE  
YET IF I WERE  
YOU, KRISY!  
THIS JERK IS  
LYING... I CAN  
SMELL THE  
LIES LIKE  
ROTTEN  
FISH!

SAAAGH!

FROM YOUNG LOVERS TO  
CORPORATE BUSINESS...THE  
HUMAN RACE STINKS!

MIND YOU -- I  
WASN'T STARING  
INTO HIS BIG  
BLUE EYES!

WHAT DO  
I KNOW...?  
I'M JUST A  
BLOOD-  
CRAZED  
MONSTER!

AH, WELL... BACK TO "CRUDS-  
VILLE"-- HOME TO A TEEM-  
ING MASS OF HOMO  
SAPIENS... OR WHAT'S  
LEFT OF THAT ONCE  
PROUD SPECIES.

I'M STARTING  
TO FEEL LIKE A  
TRAITOR TO  
THE RACE!

WAIT A  
MINUTE... I  
KNOW THAT  
SOUND...  
THERE'S ONLY  
ONE PERSON  
THAT FIRES  
A GUN LIKE  
THAT...

KRAKAKAK!  
ZZ'P! ZZ'P! KRAK!

...THE  
PUNISHER!

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

EAT  
LEAD!

I GUESS NOT ALL HUMANS  
ARE BAD... THE PUNISHER  
AND I HAVE FOUGHT ON  
THE SAME SIDE BEFORE...  
AT LEAST HE'S TRYING TO  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

RRRAAAGH!

WELL, WELL...  
IF IT ISN'T...  
PAUL - PHILIP  
RAVAGE!

STAN  
LEE  
PRESENTS

# EXODUS

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ED. IN CHIEF

COME TO PLAY  
WITH THE GROWN-  
UPS, HUM?

WHAT? OH--I  
GET IT...SO YOU WATCH  
THE NEWS AND NOW  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM...  
OR WHO I WAS.

Y'KNOW,  
PUNISHER...  
I DIDN'T  
EXPECT  
GRATITUDE  
BUT I DON'T  
LIKE YOUR  
ATTITUDE.

C'MON,  
RICH BOY...  
IT DOESN'T  
TAKE A  
GENIUS...

...SPOILED BRAT  
OF A BLACK CARDER  
DADDY GIVES HIM GREEN  
GLOBE PLC TO PLAY  
WITH--BUT IT'S NOT  
FUN ENOUGH...

...SO HE  
HAS TO GO OUT  
AND PLAY HEROES!  
I'VE SEEN IT ALL  
BEFORE, PLAY-  
BOY!

IS THAT A  
FACT? YOU KNOW  
LOADS OF GUYS  
WHO LOOK LIKE  
ME, HUM?

KNOW ANYONE ELSE WITH THREE-INCH CLAWS...? GO ASK YOUR MANICURIST. PUNISHER, ASK HER IF SHE KNOWS ANYONE...?

...IVE LOST MY FAMILY, MY BUSINESS, MY WHOLE LIFE BECAUSE OF THESE CLAWS AND HORNS! AND YOU KNOW WHAT...?

IT'S WORTH IT! I'M PROUD OF WHO I AM AND WHAT I DO!

WHAT DID YOU EVER LOSE TO BE "THE PUNISHER"? I BET YOU'VE STILL GOT A DAY JOB!

CALM DOWN! MAYBE I WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU--IT WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME.

I DO HAVE A DAY JOB AS IT HAPPENS... BUT, RAVAGE...

I LOST EVERYONE I LOVED IN ONE DAY--IT'S WHY I AM... THE PUNISHER.

HELP ME, RAVAGE!

ER-- WHAT--? SORRY, WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?

YOU MUST FIND ME... WE NEED EACH OTHER.

...DID YOU, ER-- JUST SAY SOMETHING ABOUT NEEDING EACH OTHER?



NOTHING-- FORGET IT... DO YOU WANT A RIDE ANYWHERE?

ER... NO, NO THANKS...

HMM... MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, PUNISHER...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN,  
"SUCCESS"? IT'S DESTROYED  
TWO LABS AND KILLED FIVE  
RESEARCH ASSISTANTS: LAST  
NIGHT IT TOOK DR. MINTZER'S  
HEAD OFF HIS  
SHOULDERS!

DON'T BE  
SO MOLO-  
DRAMATIC,  
DR.  
MANN...

THIS IS EXACTLY THE KIND  
OF BEHAVIOR WE DESIGNED  
AND BREED IT FOR.

BESIDES--I  
DON'T RECALL YOU  
BEING SUCH A FAN  
OF MINTZER'S...  
AREN'T YOU IN LINE  
FOR HIS POST AS  
HEAD OF  
SKELETAL EN-  
HANCEMENT?

AH... GOOD POINT,  
DR. KESSLING--AS EVER,  
YOUR AGILE MIND HAS  
IDENTIFIED THE RELEVANT  
WITHIN A MORASS OF  
PERSPECTIVES...

--PITY WE CAN'T  
GET OLD MAN SNELLER  
IN THERE TO CHANGE ITS  
WATER--THAT'D LEAVE  
YOU IN CHARGE,  
WOULDN'T IT?

WHAT A  
CORRUPT  
INDIVIDUAL  
YOU ARE, DR.  
MANN...

...HOW  
IS OUR  
FRIEND  
TODAY, DR.  
WILDING?

LIKE  
SATAN WITH  
AN ABSCESS,  
DR.  
KESSLING.

UH, TELL ME, MANN...  
WHAT DID MINTZER  
DO WRONG -- I  
MEAN HOW DID  
IT GET HIM ...?

BEATS ME -- IT'S  
CHAINED DOWN AND  
TRANQUILIZED...

ONE THING  
THOUGH... HE WAS  
ON HIS OWN -- NEVER  
COME HERE ON YOUR  
OWN -- THAT'S THE  
REASON I BROUGHT  
YOU WITH ME.

YES, WELL...  
WE'LL GET SOME  
CAMERAS IN  
HERE... KEEP AN  
EYE ON THE  
SHOCKIN'  
THING.



RAVAGE...  
CAN YOU  
HEAR ME  
IN YOUR  
MIND?

FREE ME -- GET ME  
OUT OF HERE!

I HATE  
THE WAY IT  
LOOKS AT YOU--  
ALMOST LIKE  
A MAN... JUST  
WAITING  
FOR HIS  
CHANCE...

WHEN THEY REALIZE  
WHAT THEY HAVE MADE,  
THEY WILL KILL ME...

YOU KNOW HOW  
HUMANS ARE, RAVAGE...  
GET ME AWAY FROM  
THIS PLACE!





I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH  
ME... I NEED TO GET AWAY FROM PEOPLE...



MAYBE  
THEN THE  
VOICES  
I AM  
STARTING  
TO HEAR  
WILL  
STOP.



MY BROTHER JOHN-CLAUDE  
AND I USED TO COME AND  
PLAY HERE WHEN WE WERE  
CHILDREN... THINGS WERE  
SO SIMPLE BACK THEN...



THOUGHT  
YOU'D COME  
HERE--I'VE BEEN  
WAITING FOR  
SOME TIME,  
RAVAGE...



YOU TOLD  
ME ABOUT THIS  
PLACE WHEN YOU  
WERE ON THE RUN  
FROM ALCHEMAX  
AND YOU STAYED  
AT THE BARRIO  
WITH US.



ARE  
YOU STILL  
RUNNING,  
MY  
FRIEND...?



BARRIO MAN!  
OF ALL THE PEOPLE  
I LEAST EXPECTED  
TO SEE!



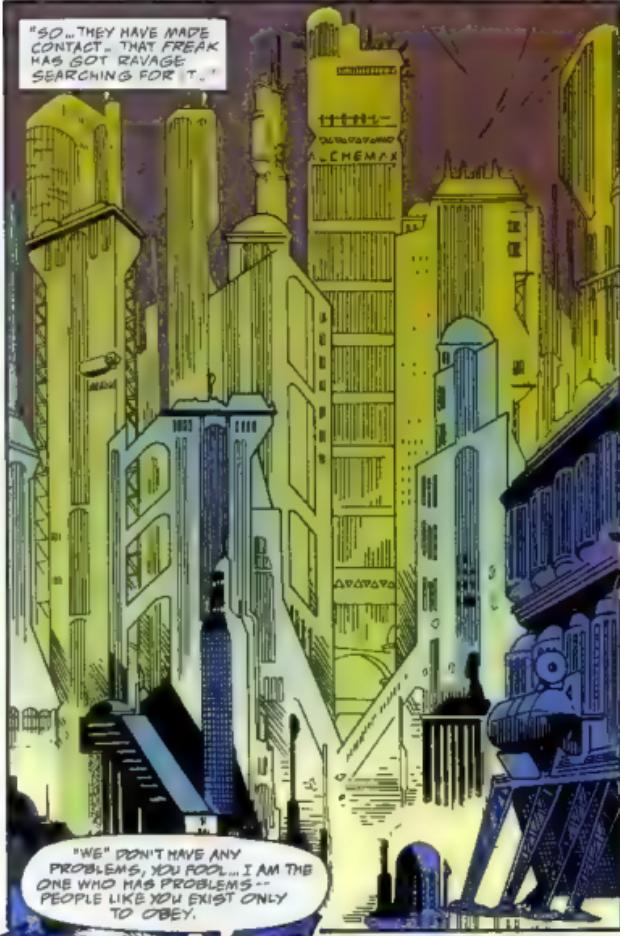
"THE VALLEY HAS EXISTED IN PEACE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, BUT THE ECOLOGICAL DISASTERS AND WARS THAT PLAGUED MAN SINCE THE END OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY HAVE MADE IT DIMENSIONALLY UNSTABLE... IT SHIFTS LOCATION PERIODICALLY..."

"THE BOOK SAYS THAT THE HERO SHALL FIND THE VALLEY OF THE BEASTS, AND HIS JOURNEY WILL TEACH HIM THE MEANING OF HUMANITY..."

"YOU MUST LEAVE NEW YORK, RAVAGE, AND FIND THIS VALLEY."



"SO... THEY HAVE MADE CONTACT - THAT FREAK HAS GOT RAVAGE SEARCHING FOR IT..."



"BUT NOW, SIR...? THEY KNOW NOTHING OF EACH OTHER. ARE YOU SAYING WE HAVE A SECURITY PROBLEM AT THE FACILITY...?"



"WE DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, YOU FOOL... I AM THE ONE WHO HAS PROBLEMS -- PEOPLE LIKE YOU EXIST ONLY TO OBEY."

AS TO SECURITY, BEKKET... IT SEEMS THAT THE FREAK ISN'T ONLY INTELLIGENT... IT'S PSYCHIC! THE CURSED THING IS TELEPATHIC!

PUT THROUGH A CALL TO SNELLER -- HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S GOT THERE -- USE MY "VIKING" PRIORITY CODE...

... IT'S WHEN YOU FAIL TO, THAT YOU HAVE A PROBLEM!



WHAT...? WHO DARES INTERRUPT ME!?



NEVER, NEVER LET A HOLE THROUGH LIKE THAT AGAIN! I WANT WARNING BEFORE I HAVE TO FACE AVATARZ.

SIR, I HAD NO CHOICE... IT WAS A DIRECT SYSTEMS BREACH-- HE'S GOT SOME SORT OF--

REALLY, PROFESSOR SELLERZ--! IF YOU WANT TO CALL A MEETING, DR. MANN AND MYSELF WOULD BE HAPPY TO--

THE SPECIAL PROJECT YOU TWO HAVE BEEN MONITORING.. WE TERMINATE IT NOW..!

SHUT UP, TIDY THE LAB, OR SOMETHING

YOU, UH, WILDER, DO WE HAVE ANY ACID-GAS HERE?

BOTH OF YOU, COME WITH ME

HIS NAME'S WILDING, SIR. AND I AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ACID-GAS... WHAT DO WE WANT WITH--

--SURELY WE'RE NOT GOING TO USE ACID ON THE PROJECT... ?!

I'VE ALWAYS HATED YOU, FREAK! NOW I GET TO BURN YOU INTO LIQUID MUSH.

LISTEN, ALL OF YOU!

I HAVE RECEIVED ORDERS FROM THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE SOURCE... I, IN TURN, AM ORDERING YOU-- THAT'S HOW IT WORKS! NOW GET THE ACID-GAS! THAT THING DIES, AND IT DIES NOW! GET IN THERE AND DO IT!

I HOPE YOU CAN SEE THIS, RAVAGE...  
MY LAST MOMENTS OF LIFE

I HAVE LIVED IN CAPTIVITY  
ALL MY LIFE -- AND NOW I  
SHALL DIE IN CHAINS...

...BUT AT LEAST IF MY  
THOUGHTS REACH YOU,  
I WILL LIVE ON IN THE  
MIND OF ANOTHER...!





THERE'S SO MUCH I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND... WHO -- OR  
WHAT ARE ? WHAT'S YOUR  
CONNECTION TO ME ?

I DON'T HAVE A NAME... YET. AS TO WHAT I AM...  
WELL, I AM AS YOU SEE ME... OTHER MINDS THINK  
OF ME AS AN OVERRUNNEN BAT -- A FREAK...

SO MY CHICK  
LEAVES THE  
NEST, EH ?  
HELPED BY  
THE FAMOUS  
"BEAST-MAN"  
-- PAUL-PHILIP  
RAVAGE.

WELL, YOU TWO AREN'T THE  
ONLY FREAKS HERE... I  
DESIGNED THESE TWO MY-  
SELF -- YOU'LL FIND THEM  
MORE THAN A MATCH...

AS TO THE REST,  
WE CAN DISCUSS  
THAT IF WE LIVE  
LONG ENOUGH  
TO ESCAPE  
THIS PLACE...

KILLER'  
FANG:  
ATTACK!  
KILL  
THEM !

SNAARL! COME  
ON THEN, MUTTS...  
LET'S DO IT!

RAVAGE HOLD BACK.  
LET ME TRY SOME-  
THING -- THEIR MINDS  
ARE SIMPLE, BUT  
NOT EVIL ...

STOP, MY FRIENDS... THINK! WHO IS  
THE ENEMY HERE ? WHO KEEPS YOU  
COLLADED AND CHAINED... DOES  
HE HURT YOU ?

WE ARE LIKE YOU, BROTHERS.  
DO WE SMELL LIKE WE MEAN  
YOU HARM...? SMELL HIM!

WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING, YOU  
STUPID LUMPS OF  
MEAT?! ATTACK,  
OR BY SHOCK  
I'LL RECYCLE  
THE PAIR OF  
YOU!

WHAT...? WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING TO THEM? RAVAGE,  
IS THIS  
YOUR DOING?

SNFF!

SNFF!

GRRR!  
GRAOWF!  
GROWF!

I WON'T BE ABLE  
TO CONTROL THEM  
FOREVER, RAVAGE  
WE'D BEST GET  
OUT OF HERE!

NOOOO SNARL!  
OOOGAAGH!

C'MON...  
FOLLOW  
ME!

GRRR!



STAY BEHIND ME!  
I TAKE BULLETS LIKE  
THIS ALL THE TIME...!



I DON'T  
KNOW HOW MUCH  
THEY PAY YOU JERKS...  
BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH  
-- NOW, GET OUT  
OF HERB!



I SURE  
HOPE THOSE  
WINGS OF YOURS  
AREN'T JUST  
FOR SHOW... YOU  
CAN FLY, I  
PRESUME?



HOW WOULD I KNOW?  
BUT, I -- I FEEL AS  
THOUGH I CAN



THEY'RE  
TRAPPED --  
ZAP 'EM!



LOOK, I'M GONNA  
JUMP... I'VE DONE IT BEFORE  
FROM THIS HEIGHT -- I  
CAN MAKE IT.



TIME TO SEE  
IF YOU CAN FLY,  
BECAUSE THEY'LL  
JUST BRING HEAVIER  
GUNS UNTIL THEY  
BRING US  
DOWN



GO, RAVAGE!  
I'LL MEET YOU  
ON THE GROUND!



HERE  
GOES NOTHING  
YAHOO!!

I'LL SURVIVE THIS, BUT I STILL FEEL NAUSEA DROPPING LIKE A STONE... WHEN I HIT THE GROUND IT WILL KNOCK ME OUT FOR A WHILE UNTIL I REPAIR.

OH, SHOCK! HOPE "FANG FACE" MADE IT--IT LOOKS BAD FOR ME...

I MUST COME ROUND QUICKLY-- IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THE GUARDS MOBILIZE ON THE GROUND.

HELLO, RAVAGE. IT APPEARS I CAN FLY AFTER ALL!

SHOCK!  
YOU'RE FAST!  
HOW FAR CAN  
YOU CARRY ME  
LIKE THIS?

HOW FAR DO YOU  
WANT TO GO? I  
FEEL NO FATIGUE...  
AND RAVAGE--IT  
FEELS SO GOOD  
TO FLY!

WELL, KEEP  
FLYING, BIG EARS...  
DON'T STOP UNTIL  
THIS STINKING CITY  
IS A DOT IN THE  
REAR-VIEW MIRROR.

MIND IF I CLIMB ONTO  
YOUR BACK--? I FEEL  
STUPID DANGLING  
LIKE THIS...

NOT AT ALL!

LET'S  
GO  
FIND...

# THE VALLEY OF THE BEASTS!



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Lee Bennett Jr.  
Script  
Scott Kerasi

TO BE CONTINUED!

# RANTS & RAVES

MATTHEW MORRA — ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JOEY CAVALIERI — GROUP EDITOR

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ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS. ALTHOUGH WE WILL GURUALLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO UPON REQUEST.

## Out Of My Head

My heroes are guys like Thomas Pynchon and J.D. Salinger and Steve Ditko. They let their work speak for themselves, and then they shut up.

They don't do interviews, they don't do talk shows and they certainly don't do public appearances.

The problem with not talking is that some bonehead takes it upon him or herself to talk for you. You can bet that there are plenty of term papers on symbolism in Pynchon, biographical influences on Salinger, political critiques of Ditko.

I want to see this movie called *Thirty-Two Short Films About Glenn Gould*. Gould was a concert pianist who quit making concert appearances in his thirties. He was upset that not everyone who bought a ticket to his shows got the same experience. He relied on recordings solely, because he wanted everyone to hear him perfectly.

I would wish this for myself: Tired of seeing my news about my life misrepresented in media, I'm hereby discontinuing the "More of Marvel 2099" column that appears further down this page. This installment will be the last. Henceforward, if you didn't get it from this "Out of My Head" column, you didn't get it.

could make all this up. I mean, they're about the best writers around today and will no doubt win next year's Pulitzer Prize for comic literature, but they're not geniuses. Or are they?

The final confrontation between Ravage and Throwback was no less exciting or brutal even if it did take place in the fantasy world of Total Reality. A plausible form of time-travel, this is one of the more intriguing concepts to come sailing out of the House of Ideas in some time. Like those others, it has enough buoyancy and originality to keep it afloat for another strong story or two. This might be a good way for the heroes of 2099 to meet up with the super heroes of the present age.

Before RAVAGE 2099, I'd never heard of Grant Miehm and didn't take to him instantly. With the latest issue this has changed. Clean and powerful, this is his finest work to date and hints at greater things to come. Good show!

Steve Perram  
2920 Meridian St.  
Bellingham, WA 98225

If you really enjoy Pat and Tony's ability to invent new concepts, check out their work in our companion magazine, THE PUNISHER 2099!

## Dear Rants & Raves,

Issue #18 was great! I never expected to see a whole tribe of beasts. Just like I never expected Ravage to turn primal. Anyway, let's get to the point. Where are Dethstryk and Hellrock? After all, that mutroid and that island were one of the main things that started this comic. Ravage has been doing all these things to help the environment and he still hasn't attacked the real threat—the most polluted place in 2099!

Just a suggestion: how about Dethstryk kidnaps Deck (I know he's been living with Bamo Man, but shouldn't we be seeing him again?) and turns him into a mutroid or at least tries to. That'd get Ravage back up there.

I've been collecting RAVAGE since issue #1 and I've loved every minute of it. Before the 2099 line came out, the SPIDER-MAN books were my favorite. Now I can't decide between SPIDER-MAN 2099, RAVAGE and THE PUNISHER 2099! They're all great titles!

Craig C. Rabotau  
2412 S. Conway Rd.  
Orlando, FL 32812

You want the return of Dethstryk, huh, Craig? Then why not ask for it as an Anniversary present?

## Dear Rants & Raves,

After a year and a half, RAVAGE 2099 has established itself as a really great comic. In only 18 issues, we've seen more changes in the character of Ravage than some comic characters see in 18 years. Ravage has gone from being a naive corporate executive to a tough-talking street fighter, a super-powered hero and finally a bestial metamorph. You can't get any more diverse than that.

Issue #18 continued the pattern of excellence evident in past issues. We got a great fight between Ravage and Throwback, an unusual lesson in evolution and some great character development. I liked how Pat and Tony fleshed out Ravage's sister, Mirinda. Before this, she seemed like a one-dimensional wench who absolutely despised her brother. Now, although she's still no saint, we see that she does care enough about Ravage not to want him dead. Now if I could only find something worthwhile about that slime DuPledge.

Ben Herman  
45 Runyon Place  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

That's the mark of great writing, Ben, the ability to make you care about a character you hate.

## MORE OF MARVEL 2099

Scope out the current series of stories in THE PUNISHER 2099. You really should, 'cause the new major character, THE PUBLIC ENEMY, is getting his own byline in an upcoming issue of 2099 UNLIMITED. The story's by Pat Mills and Tony Skinner, of course, and the awesome art is by Malcolm Davis and Chris Ivy! They really outdid themselves on it!

The Public Enemy pinches for THE HULK 2099, who gets his own book! We're real proud of the work we've done on it so far...so we're premiering it in two of our 2099 Anniversary issues...SPIDER-MAN 2099 #25 and RAVAGE 2099 #25!

Looks like it's gonna be a happy anniversary!  
Bye!

**NEXT ISSUE**  
How can we possibly make Ravage more brutal, more bestial, more Savage?  
Why don't you ask us a tough question?

Dear Matt & Joey,

I'm really impressed with the Ravage/Throwback storyline. I waited until I had the whole thing so I could read it all at once.

Throwback—very cool.

X-11—Wow. Can't wait to see next issue.

Mirinda—I was almost disappointed that X-11 didn't kill her in issue #18. I'm glad we'll be able to see what Ravage is going to do for revenge. I thought maybe he'd destroy Green Globe. He couldn't, could he?

As you can see, I think about your mega-a lot and look forward to each issue.

Adam Reinhard  
3844 S 58th St.  
Greenfield, WI 53220

Ravage's exploits will take him far beyond the narrow confines of Green Globe and corporate intrigue, Adam, as you'll see in this issue!

Dear Matt & Joey,

RAVAGE 2099 #18 offers another thrilling glimpse into the world's most fascinating epoch. It's all true, too. It has to be. No way Pat Mills and Tony Skinner



Join the fight for a better tomorrow

Do your duty for DOOM and your country at the following locations:

<http://www.Bung.at/comicsgord/home.htm>

<http://todi.kicks-ass.net/forum>